

REMARKS

In the March 1, 2004 Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1 and 2 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) and objected to claims 3-9 as dependent from rejected base claims. Claim 1 has been cancelled and claim 2 has been amended to depend from claim 6. All of the remaining claims that previously depended from claim 1 have been amended to become independent claims by incorporating the limitations of claim 1.

Advisory Action

In the July 2, 2004 Advisory Action, the Examiner refused to enter the Amendment filed by certificate of mail on June 1, 2004, because claim 6 was not amended to incorporate all of the limitations in claim 1 from which it depended. Additional limitations from claim 1 have been added to claim 6. If claim 6 is deemed to not include all limitations of claim 1 required to distinguish over the prior art, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned by telephone to arrange an Examiner Interview for the purpose of expediting the process of placing the claims in condition for allowance.

Entry of Amendment

It is submitted that the scope of claim 3-9 has not changed and therefore, no further search should be required and claims 2-9 are now in condition for allowance. Entry of the Amendment, reconsideration of the claims and an early Notice of Allowance are earnestly solicited.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

Date: _____

7/6/04

By: _____

Richard A. Gollhofer

Richard A. Gollhofer
Registration No. 31,106

1201 New York Avenue, NW, Suite 700
Washington, D.C. 20005
Telephone: (202) 434-1500
Facsimile: (202) 434-1501